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BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

Medical Officer of Health,

Year ending 31st December, 1945

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the work carried out in connection with the Port Health administration during the year ended 31st December 1945

Yours faithfully,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

(I) Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the year.

1945

TABLE A

Number	Tonnage	Number inspected			Number of vessels reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious diseases on board
		By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	Defective	
Steamers	29	13,329	8	8	2
Motor	49	8,921			NIL
Sailing	NIL	NIL			
Fishing	NIL	NIL			
<u>Total Foreign</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>22,250</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>
Steamers	118	22,978	12	6	NIL
Motor	258	37,767		NIL	NIL
Sailing	NIL	NIL			
Fishing	NIL	NIL			
<u>Total Coastwise</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>60,745</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>NIL</u>
Total Foreign and Coastwise	454	82,995	20	14	2
					NIL

(II) CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT

TABLE B

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS. Grain, Deals, Battens and Boards, Sleepers, Telegraph Poles, Pine Logs, Flour, Bran & Sharps, Potatoes, Manure, Steel Billets, Granite, Shingle, Binder Twine, Bog Ore and General (Continental Goods)

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS. Grain, Pig Iron, Potatoes, Vegetables, Basic Slag, Seeds, Sugar, Coal, General (Continental Goods)

(III) SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is by the Boston Corporation Waterworks, for both Port and Shipping.

There are no Water Boats.

(IV) PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

(1) Arrangements for dealings with Declarations of Health:

Customs and all shipping agents are supplied with forms. These are returned completed to the Medical Officer of Health by H.M. Customs Officers.

(2) Boarding of Vessels on arrival

All infected or suspected vessels are boarded by the Medical Officer either at the Pilot Sloop or the landing stage immediately outside the Dock Gates; this depends, of course, on the class of disease with which I have to deal.

(3) Notification to the Authority of inward vessels requiring special attention (wireless messages, land signal stations, information from pilots, Customs Officers, etc.).

Copies of the weekly list of Infected Ports are sent to the Pilots and H.M. Customs with a request that the Medical Officer be notified accordingly. The Medical Officer is connected by telephone with the Pilot Boarding Station (which is situated in the Wash, five miles from Port), and the telegraphic address "Port-health" has been registered.

(4) Mooring Stations, designated under Article 10.

(a) Within the Docks.

The vacant berth in Boston Dock.

(b) Outside the Docks.

Quarantine Station - Clay Hole.

(5) Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.

NIL

(6) Experience of working of Article 16.

NIL

TABLE C

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

Disease	No. of Cases during 1945		No. of Vessels concerned	Average No. of cases for Previous 5 years
	Passengers	Crew		
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

TABLE D

Case of Infectious Sickness occurring on vessels during the voyage, but disposed of prior to arrival

Disease	No. of Cases during 1945		No. of Vessels concerned	Average No. of cases for previous 5 years
	Passengers	Crew		
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

No cases of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox, or Typhus occurred during the year.

(V) MEASURE AGAINST RODENTS.

(1) Steps taken for detection of rodent plague.

(a) In ships in the port... Sanitary Officer's examination of ships

(b) On quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the port. The Boston Port Health Authority is the Authority under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

(2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between ships and the shore.

Masters of ships which are suspected of being rat-infested are instructed to provide mushrooms on their ropes.

(3) Methods of deratination of

(a) Ships. Sulphur fumigation where necessary.

(b) Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.

Dock Commissioners carry out continual gassing with a portable machine.

(4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore.

Sanitary Officers' examination of ships, while the Boston Port Health Authority is the Authority under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act on shore.

(5) Rat-proofing

(a) To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses, etc., rat proof.

The fruit shed (south side) is of iron construction and the floor of cement.

(b) Action taken to extend rat-proofing.

The general merchandise warehouses on the north side of the Docks are of concrete.

RATS DESTROYED IN 1945

TABLE E

(1) On vessels Nil

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

Disinfestation carried out by Port Health Authority

Issue of Deratification and Deratification Exemption Certificates

No certificates have been issued during the year, as Boston is not an approved Port. Certificates when required have been obtained from Grimsby.

FOOD INSPECTION

No action was found to be necessary during the year under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940, and the Food and Drugs Act 1938 (section 39)

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.